

# RegNet

*Creating an electronic information system to move the United States toward stability in regulatory rule making*

**T**he regulatory intent of government agencies and regulations is to protect the health and safety of U.S. citizens and the physical and social environment in which they live. However, an industry usually must answer to several agencies (at the local, state, and federal level), and must understand and comply with a myriad of regulations that are sometimes redundant and inconsistent. Different agencies often have regulations that accomplish the same goal, and therefore act only to create more reporting requirements. The costs and delays associated with the regulatory process in this country have been a primary factor in the decision of many U.S. corporations to build their facilities outside the United States.

## A regulatory information system

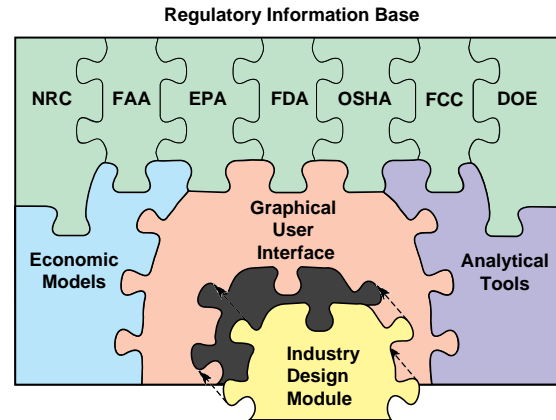
Establishing a *National Accelerated Learning Network* has been suggested as a way to ease and speed the transition of the nation into the information age. Such a network would seem to be

### APPLICATIONS

- Regulatory data bases
- Regulatory computing analysis

the natural place for a regulatory information system—RegNet—whose purpose would be to ease and speed the regulatory process in this country.

RegNet, when fully developed on the national network, would electronically contain regulatory information (regulatory data bases and regulatory support computing analysis codes) at the local, state, and federal levels. These data bases and codes would be integrated so that an industry can test a potential submittal to a regulatory agency and evaluate whether the submittal meets the regulatory requirements, whether the submittal must have more analysis, or provide more supporting information. RegNet would be comprised of the same tools that regulatory agencies would use to evaluate a submittal for regulatory approval, and have specifications, criteria, and standards developed to guide regulatory agencies in connecting and integrating into the regulatory information system.



RegNet's five modules.

## User-friendly interface

An industry user would use the system to evaluate a design and proposed changes at either the development level, the operating level, or the maintenance level. When RegNet is developed, it should determine for an industry model:

- Compliance with local, state, and federal development, operating, and maintenance requirements for the proposed area of application or construction
- What, if any, additional design changes are required; Where appropriate, the regulatory support analytical codes would challenge the design model to confirm submitted design assumptions, along with intelligent access to previously certified designs
- The impact the design will have on social and economic issues, and vice versa.

**Availability:** LLNL seeks to work with industry, government, academia, and the research community to create a distributed, standardized, electronic information system that presents regulations in a visual format.

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